

C O R R I D O R

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A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

As our road crews begin to tackle two of the most challenging projects of the H-1 Corridor construction project, the next several months promise to be a busy time for all of us at the Hawaii State Department of Transportation. That's when construction is scheduled to begin on the Punahou off-ramp widening project and Kalaniana'ole Highway water line installation.

Work on the Kalaniana'ole Highway water line is expected to start on April 9. The Punahou off-ramp work has been delayed until May due to unforeseen problems with demolishing an incinerator building at Shriner's Hospital.

In preparation for the Kalaniana'ole Highway work, a trial closure was performed from February 21 to 23. This simulated the real closure, with the same contraflow detours and work hours (9 a.m. to 3 p.m.) that will be utilized when actual water line work begins this spring. In general, it took motorists from 5 to 10 minutes to drive through the contraflow lanes at the Ainakoa Street-West Hind Drive portion of Kalaniana'ole Highway. While that is not quite the "nightmare" that many had anticipated, the HDOT is working with the contractor to analyze the data gained by the trial closure to see if the traffic impact can be reduced even further.

The H-1 Task Force will continue to be the official information source for these projects. The Task Force meets on the first Tuesday of each month at 5 p.m. at the state Capitol, and the meetings are open to the public.

We are also continuing to encourage the public to call the H-1 Hotline or visit the HDOT web site to keep up to date on all of our current and pending projects. The purpose, as with all of our public information efforts, is to keep the driving public aware of all ongoing roadside projects. This works not only to minimize delays and bottlenecks, but to ensure that our roads and highways remain safe for everyone, even as we work to improve them.

Sincerely,



Brian Minaai
Director



For more information,
call the H-1 Hotline at 587-2345
or visit the HDOT web site at:
www.state.hi.us/dot



PUNAHOU RAMP WORK DELAYED UNTIL MAY 2001

The artist's conception pictured below of a widened Punahou Street off-ramp shows the additional right-turn lane that will be added onto Punahou Street.

In addition to the new lane, the existing freeway lane approaching and entering the off-ramp will be widened to two lanes.

The estimated starting date is in May 2001, with daytime work hours from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on weekdays.

The HDOT is considering closures of Ward and/or Piikoi on-ramps during construction hours to reduce traffic entering the freeway just before the Punahou exit.

As mentioned in last month's newsletter, the freeway barrier along the Shriner's Hospital property line will be pushed back, and the resulting space will be utilized for the new lanes. Most of the construction is expected to take place outside of the off-ramp lanes.

The entire project is expected to last 8 months.



TRIAL CLOSURE ON KALANIANA'OLE HIGHWAY PROVIDES USEFUL DATA

A trial closure was performed from February 21 to 23 on Kalaniana'ole Highway to simulate the same contraflow detours to be used when actual water line work begins this spring. It took motorists from 5 to 10 minutes to drive through this portion of Kalaniana'ole Highway.

Beginning April 9, two new water mains will be installed prior to resurfacing. To maintain water service to the residents on the mauka side of Kalaniana'ole Highway, an 8-inch water main will be installed. For residents on the makai side of the highway, a 16-inch water main will be installed.

Work will begin first on the 8-inch water main between Ainakoa Avenue and Laukahi Street, in the mauka westbound lane. In addition, Gasco is installing a new gas line from Ainakoa Avenue to West Hind

Drive. This gas line work began in January.

The re-paving portion of the project includes cold planing and re-paving from Ainakoa Avenue to West Hind Drive, as well as reconstruction of weakened pavement and sidewalk areas, construction of bike lanes and curb ramps, improvements to guardrails and drainage, new signs and pavement markings.



MARCH 2001 SCHEDULE OF PROJECTS

DAYS / HOURS	LOCATION	PROJECT	TRAFFIC IMPACT
Sunday-Thursday 9 p.m.-5 a.m.	H-1, between Punchbowl Street and Kapiolani interchange	Barrier upgrade Highway lighting upgrade Bridge joint replacement Drain cleaning	Lane closures
Monday-Friday 9 a.m.-3 p.m.	H-1, between Punahou St. and Kapiolani Interchange	Barrier upgrade Highway lighting upgrade Bridge joint replacement Guardrail upgrade	Single freeway lane closures
	Kapiolani on- and off-ramps	Seismic retrofit Guardrail upgrade Bridge joint replacement	Ramp/lane closures
	Kalaniana'ole Hwy, in the vicinity of Analii St.	Traffic light installation	Single lane closure
	Lunalilo St., between Keeaumoku and Ernest Streets	Paving	Lane closures (Local traffic allowed; on-ramp to remain open)
	Metcalf St., between McCully and Alexander Streets (Anticipate 9 a.m.-5 p.m. work on weekends)	Water line work	Lane closure and possible block closure
Daily 24-hour	Ward Ave., between Kinalau Pl. to Kinau St.	Water line work	Lane closures
	Palama St., in the vicinity of the Palama separation	Seismic retrofit	24-hour single lane closure
	Halona St., in the vicinity of Vineyard/Halona west on-ramp	Seismic retrofit	24-hour single lane closure